

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve for medical applications comprising:

a housing having a lumen extending therethrough from a proximal end to a distal end thereof; and

a flow control membrane extending across the lumen to control flow therethrough, wherein the flow control membrane comprises a first membrane bonded to an annular base member, wherein an area of the base member substantially corresponds to that of a seating portion and wherein a slit extends through the first membrane, and wherein a thickness of the flow control membrane at the seating portion is greater than a thickness of a lumen occluding portion.

the flow control membrane including a the seating portion at which the flow control membrane is coupled to the housing and a the lumen occluding portion having a slit extending therethrough so that, when the lumen occluding portion is subjected to a pressure of at least a predetermined threshold level, the lumen occluding portion moves from a closed configuration in which flow through the lumen is prevented to an open configuration in which flow is permitted,

wherein the seating portion covers a minority of a surface area of the lumen occluding portion in which the slit is disposed.

2. (Canceled) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, wherein the flow control membrane comprises a first membrane bonded to an annular base member, wherein an area of the base member substantially corresponds to that of the seating portion and wherein the slit extends through the first membrane, and wherein a thickness of the flow control membrane at the seating portion is greater than a thickness of the lumen occluding portion.

3. (Previously presented) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, further comprising a membrane retention portion of the housing, the membrane retention portion being adapted to apply a retentive compression force to the seating portion.

4. (Currently amended) The pressure activated valve according to claim 2 1, further comprising a layer of adhesive disposed between the first membrane and the base ~~membrane~~ member.

5. (Currently amended) The pressure activated valve according to claim 2 1, wherein the first membrane has a thickness of no more than 0.035 in.

6. (Original) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the lumen occluding portion is between 0.005 and 0.100 inches.

7. (Previously presented) The pressure activated valve according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the seating portion is between 1 and 20 times a thickness of the lumen occluding portion.

8 - 28. (Canceled)